

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, after the title of the application:

This application is the U.S. national phase application of PCT International Application No. PCT/GB2003/003827, filed September 3, 2003, and claims priority of British Patent Application No. 0220645.6, filed September 5, 2002.

Please add the following heading at page 1, line 2:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following heading at page 1, line 6:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following heading at page 5, line 21:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to a first aspect, the invention provides an exhaust system for a lean-burn internal combustion engine, which system comprising a nitrogen oxide (NO_x) absorbent, a catalyst for catalysing the selective catalytic reduction (SCR) of NO_x with a NO_x-specific reactant, first means for introducing a NO_x-specific reactant or a precursor thereof (in certain amounts, e.g. a first and second amount) into an exhaust gas upstream of the SCR catalyst and means for controlling the introduction of the NO_x- specific reactant or precursor thereof into the exhaust gas via the first introducing means, wherein the SCR catalyst is disposed upstream of the NO_x absorbent and optionally with the NO_x absorbent, wherein the control means is arranged to introduce the NO_x-specific reactant or the precursor thereof to the first introducing means only when the SCR catalyst is active, whereby exhaustion of NO_x-specific reactant to atmosphere is substantially prevented.

Please add the following heading at page 13, line 20:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following heading at page 14, before line 1:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION